

Youth-in-Transition Program in Rural Communities

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Today's Transitioning into Adulthood

- ▶ Multidimensional pathways
- ▶ Varying expectations of adulthood



Rural youth has been identified as one of the most disadvantaged populations.




Employment

In rural areas, young people usually are in the lowest paid jobs with little job security.

- Choices
- Quality
 - Pay and benefits
 - Job security
 - Opportunities for growth/advancement



Education

- ▶ Increase in choices due to technology, on line education
 - ▶ Financial support and resources
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Environmental

- Availability and cost for housing
- Transportation
- Limited services, health care
- Seeing youth as trouble or youth in trouble
- Dominant religion
- Conservative
- High/low community attachment




Social



- Desire for independence
- Leisure activities and social opportunities (gender disparity)
- Sense of isolation
- Young people feel alienated, unsupported and undervalued
- Gossips and stereotypes
- Small peer group
- Lack of diversity



Family Dynamic

- Family expectation
 - Family support
 - Young people's negotiation of independence and Interdependence
 - A push or pull factor for migration
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Out Migration/ Leaving the Area

It is a complex decision-making process

- Push and Pull factors
- Personal and highly individualized
- Multiple factors, often conflicting with each other



Out Migration

- Employment is a key factor for migration
- Education usually is a temporary factor but may become permanent when combined with other factors.
- Help young people prepare for migration
- People who leave may return to provide more resources to the community



Rural Youth-in-Transition Program

- Help young people negotiate independence vs interdependence
- Address the issue of high/low community attachment
- Address the issue of young people feeling alienated, unsupported and undervalued
- Help young people prepare for out-migration
- Address the issue of push and pull factors in out-migration



Helping Young People Succeed in New Community

- Family support
- Maintain connection with family, friends and community
- Opportunities and challenges of increased leisure activities
- Positive social relations in new community



Helping Young People Succeed in New Community

- Increased diversity
- Finding employment
- Developing attachment in the new community
- Different kind of stress in the new community